

The Blurb

A Publication of
THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
c/o 641 KISMET ROAD, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19115-1114

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

AMATEUR RADIO: WHEN NORMAL COMMUNICATIONS FAIL!

The Blurb



MARCH
1999



Public Service Since 1949



VOLUME 49
NUMBER 3

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to nonmembers for \$10 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street or the parking garage on 21st street. **ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!**

Amateur Radio License Examinations are held on the *first* non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—doors close at 6:30 PM—*SHARP!*

CLUB INFORMATION

Mailing address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

Internet Web site: <http://www.phil-mont.org>

E-mail: info@phil-mont.org

2-meter repeater: 147.03 MHz (Main site Roxborough receiver requires no PL, but transmits 91.5 Hz.)

Additional off-site receivers require the following subaudible tones:

Southampton 131.8 Hz—*Center City* 103.5 Hz—*Lansdale* 114.8 Hz—*Broomall* 85.4 Hz

70-cm repeater: 444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

Simplex: 147.51 MHz

24-hour club information at W3AA: 215-448-1139

STATIONS

W3AA - (Formerly W3TKQ) The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee WU3I;

Maanager: W3STW

The club sponsors this world-class demonstration station, and welcomes all licensed amateurs to operate it.

W3AA packet BBS frequency: 144.99 MHz: w3aa@w3aa.sepa.pa.usa.noam

W3AA e-mail: w3aa@phil-mont.org

W3EM - Field Day and special events station - Trustee W3VVS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz repeater - Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: W3CH, Russ Stafford, Box 379, Eagleville, PA 19408-0379; 610-631-3401 x902

w3ch@hdj.com—w3ch@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam

VICE PRESIDENT: AA3EP, Charlie Weigand, 91 Moyer Road, Pottstown, PA 19464; 610-323-1050

aa3ep@aol.com—aa3ep@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam

SECRETARY: N3LCV, Arthur Weiner, 11016 Audubon Ave., Phila., PA 19116; 215-698-1606

aweiner@fast.net

ASST. SECRETARY: W3RED, William H. MacKenzie, 421 N. Spring Garden St. Ambler, PA 19002; 610-646-6248

TREASURER: K2BN, Mike Tannenbaum, 545 Cardinal Drive, Dresher, PA 19025; 215-542-5991
k2bn@agtannenbaum.com packet: K2BN@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam

DIRECTORS

N3PVO (01); WU3I (01); W3RM (01); W3GQD (99); KB3IV (99); N3XKE (99); W3STW (A)

COMMITTEES

Archives: W3IIN; **Audit:** KE3OP; **Awards:** AA3EP; **Blurb folding:** WB3KOJ & WB3KOH; **Budget:**

K3KUD; **Directory:** WB3KOJ & W3IIM; **DX:** OPEN; **Education:** W3CH; **Emerg. Coord.:** N3XKE; **Field Day:**

WU3I; **Internet:** W3IIM; **Membership:** W3LEN; **Net Control:** KB3IV; **Publicity:** W3RM

Program: AA3EP; **Public Service:** AA3EP; **Publicity:** N3IEI; **Refreshments:** W3AOK; **Repeater:** W3BBB;

Skywarn: N3LCV; **Special Events:** N3WCO; **Sunshine:** WU3I; **Youth:** KE3ZY; **TVI:** W3VVS; **VE**

Program: ND3Q; **W3AA** Trustee: WU3I; **W3AA** Station Manager: W3STW; **Welcome:** K3CJ.

NET SCHEDULE

Sunday	09:30	147.03	MHz FM	"Sunday Morning 2 Meter Net"
	10:00	28.393 (+ or - for QRM)	MHz SSB	"10-on-10 Net"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 Meter Net
Tuesday	20:00	147.03	MHz FM	CW Practice Net

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

03 Austin Gutman - W3FOG

Elaine Spencer (XYL W3BBB)

Dave Witkowski - N3KGG***

06 Marilyn Miller (XYL K3KNH)

07 June Faye (XYL W3RCE)

09 Fayette Toren (XYL N2MT)

11 Gale Ackerman (XYL N3DO)

Jim Parker - N3KGH

14 Peg Lamberti (XYL KE3NP)

Irma Volen (XYL N3UBY**)

15 Dottie Scialdone-Maresca - K3YPH

18 Ed Losco - N3DLV*

21 Ben Roeshman - W3LKI

23 Henry Platt - W3UI

Steve Rudnitsky - N3XTN

25 Perry Blum - N3AXJ

Richard Citrino Jr. - KB2TEZ

Jerrie Haldeman (XYL W3PST)

26 Susan VanMeter (XYL KE7YE)

27 William (Red) MacKenzie - W3RED

28 Steve Rubin - KB3CFS**

Barbara Stein (XYL KB3AFH)

31 Ted Lada - N3FTZ

*Indicates New Member - 1997-98

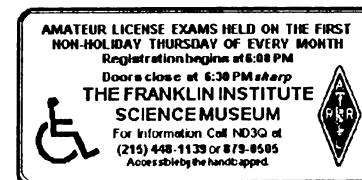
**Indicates Membership Pending

***Indicates Renewed Membership

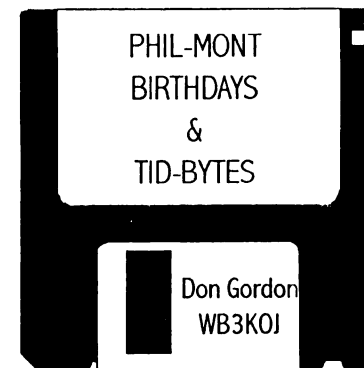
LAST CALL. IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID BY THE END OF FEBRUARY YOUR NAME WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE 1999 P.M.R.C. DIRECTORY AND YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THE APRIL BLURB.

HELP PHIL-MONT. Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership? Help P.M.R.C. by joining or renewing through the club. Contact our Treasurer MIKE TANNENBAUM, K2BN, for details.

Membership Stats will resume in the April Blur



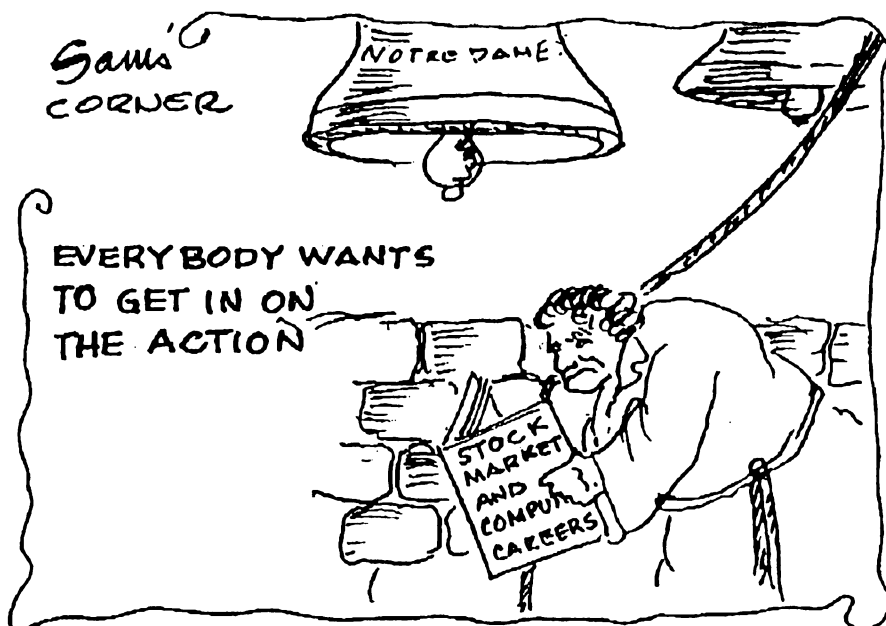
"DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT"—for the courtesy !



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Net Control stations should read the following announcements before asking if there are any more announcements for the net.

- On March 3 the Director's meeting will be held at the home of KB3IV
- VE testing will be held on March 4 at 6:30 P.M. The 1999 ARRL VE test fee is \$6.45, but there is no charge for the Novice test.
- On March 10 the general meeting will be the MS Pizza Party. Even if you did not participate in any MS events come out and show your support for those amateurs who have participated in this great public service event.



The PREZ SEZ



Hello Phil-Monsters. As our attention turns to outside projects, it is a good idea to remember that it will soon be the start of the public service season. As conscientious Hams we should all participate in at least one public service event each year. Charlie, AA3EP, has a list of all the upcoming 1999 events here, in the Blurb. Jack, W3IIM is also keeping the web page (www.phil-mont.org) updated with the latest calendar and the sign-up forms for the events which can be downloaded. So, this year there is just no reason not to have your forms filled out and submitted early for all of the events. While we are talking about forms, PLEASE type them if you can or print them clearly. Some of the old guys who read them are having a hard time figuring out the chicken scratch and funny writing. Also, check your mailing labels for accuracy when you receive a form by mail and let Charlie, AA3EP, know at once if there is a problem and he will fix it in his database. (Just a reminder that the public service database is different than the Phil-Mont database kept by Donald, WB3KOJ).

This month's Phil-Mont meeting will be a Thank You party hosted by the M.S. Society. So, come out and enjoy. Phil-Mont will be getting an award as well as W3AA, Charlie, AA3EP and others for the many years of helping out on M.S. events. Phil-Mont and it's members are totally dedicated to public service so get out in the sunshine and do a public service event or two this year. Some of our members participate in all of the events and that's great!!

The club Raffle is going strong! The tickets are \$10.00 each and can be obtained by sending a S.A.S.E. to the club mail box or from Steffie, KE3ZY at the meetings. This helps to offset the cost of our summer picnic every year. Take a chance, you could be the winner this time!

The club's 50th Birthday Party will soon be upon us. Did you send in your questionnaire? You should have! The Directors of the club need this information so they can work out this great event for Phil-Mont.

I have been asked many times "Is it OK if Phil-Mont members use the Metro-Comm repeater system?" The answer is YES! All Phil-Mont members are most welcome to use the Metro-Comm repeater system as if it were their own. Metro-Comm has no dues and is a rag-chew system, that means you can talk as long as you want and no one will run you off for tying up the repeater system. So, enjoy it and use it!

Have you all seen the line up of meetings that Charlie, AA3EP has planned? This month, of course will be the Thank You party. The April meeting will be a field trip to The KYW HDTV/SDTV transmitter site. This is a meeting not to be missed! There will

Prez Sez continued on page 9

UPCOMING

- March 3 Directors' Meeting at KB3IV
- March 4 License Examinations at The Franklin Institute
- March 10 General meeting - MS PIZZA PARTY

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Charlie Weigand, AA3EP
Phone 610-323-1050

Packet: aa3p@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
E-mail: aa3ep@aol.com

Russ Stafford, W3CII
Phone: (610)631-3401 ext. 902
Packet: w3ch@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
E-mail: w3ch@hdj.com

The MS Thank -you Pizza Party
will be held on March 10, 1999

The WALK on April 18 and May 2

The Chester County Challenge
will be held on May 16, 1999

The PA Dutch in Lancaster County
will be held on June 12, 1999

The MS City to Shore will be held
on September 25 and 26, 1999

Brian's Run will be held
in December of 1999



VE Test Locations

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must show two other types of ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1999 test fee is \$6.45; there is no charge for a Novice test.

- **THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE**
Monthly, 1st Thursday—Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
215- 879-0505 day, 215- 448-1139 24-hours
- **BELLMAWR, NJ**
Diane Nafis
609-227-6281
- **BRISTOL**
George LeNoir
215-943-4886
- **LEVITTOWN, PA**
David L. Heller, 215-946-1040
- **LINWOOD, PA—(Commercial & Amateur Exams.)**
Russ Stafford, W3CH
610-631-3401 x902
- **TELFORD**
Joseph Burgess
215-723-6697
- **UNIVERSITY OF PA**
Jeff DePolo
215- 898-8538 shack, 215-337-7383 home
- **WARMINSTER**
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494
- **WILMINGTON**
Ciselle Walls
302-478-2757

Blue Bell Tavern Ghost, Revisited

by Sam Kuncovich, N3QIE

On the 25th of February 1990, in the March issue of the Blurb, the first story on the Blue Bell Tavern ghost was published. Things have not changed much since then. The Blue Bell Tavern was built on 1766 at the junction of Woodland and Island Ave. then known as Paschalville, named after the owner and builder Henry Paschall. Henry's father, John Paschall, purchased Land for the Tavern in 1746. On November 19, 1777 the first group of General Howe's troops came south on Plank Road in pursuit of



Washington's forces headed for Valley Forge. The British called this road Kings Highway – the main route to the South or back to the city. Washington, on passing the Blue Bell Tavern, left behind a small group of "Pickets" to delay the British. As the British forces approached the Blue Bell Tavern, the Pickets opened fire, killing one officer and badly wounding a sergeant. The wounded sergeant was brought into the Tavern, and laid on a table to be bandaged. The sergeant only said a few words before he died, "I knew I would never leave this accursed place." For a long time no one knew who the sergeant was until the records of St. James Church of Kingessing, at 69th and Woodland were searched. The records showed the Sergeant was buried on church grounds and was identified as Jonathan Crispin, Sgt. Of the 21st Grenadiers, under British General Leslie's 2nd Battalion Infantry. Some years later, reports of unusual events by custodians of the Park Service Dept. in charge of the Blue Bell Tavern, were reported. These events were ignored as fiction. But the current residents, Mr. and Mrs. Tristan Remp and their son, have many stories and witnesses of similar strange events. Such things as being pushed by an invisible object or person. Sometimes unseen forces were moving objects. Objects were missing and reappearing elsewhere at another time. Coming face to face with a transparent man in uniform occurred.

At evening hours a military figure was seen walking among the bushes and trees around the Blue Bell Tavern. No one as yet has been able to engage this spirit in any kind of conversation. He does not approve of visitors to the Tavern and plays pranks on the resident family. Vandals have damaged the building while it has been vacant. It is slowly being restored by "Friends of Blue Bell" a non-profit group working to fully restore the Tavern. Attempts are being made to locate any possible relatives in England to inform them of where the sergeant is buried. His spirit is still on duty at Blue Bell Tavern. Maybe someday someone will communicate with the sergeant and tell him he no longer needs to patrol for rebels, his job is done and he is free to go.

MS Pizza Party

You are cordially invited to the Multiple Sclerosis public service event wrap-up meeting and thank you party. Bring the OM, XYL or YL to this event. There will be discussions on how the events can be improved and plenty of pizza.

Attending will be the Ham Event Coordinators Russ, W3CH, Charlie, AA3EP and Dave, N3KGG as well as Staff members from the M.S. Society. They will answer any questions ranging from communications coordination to where does all that money go? Plan on joining the team for a Thank You that is well deserved. If it were not for Hams, like you, the M.S. 150 City To Shore Bike Tour would not be the largest two-day Ham public service event, East of the Rockies. All Hams who participate in public service work are most welcome!

Honorees:

Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Penn Wireless, Burlington County Races, Camden County ARES, Shore Points ARC, Station W3AA, Carl Owens (WB0CPR), Boyd Preston (K5YKG), J. Ray Patterson, Charlie Weigand (AA3EP) and others.

Date: March 10, 1999

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: The Franklin Institute- 20th and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA (plenty of indoor parking on site)

Talk in: 147.03, 224.96, 443.050, 444.800

For more information you may contact Russ, W3CH, on any of the above repeaters or by phone: (610)-631-3401

Packet: W3CH@W3CH.#SEPA.PA.USA.NOAM

E-mail: w3ch@hdj.com

Charlie, AA3EP at any of the above repeaters plus 224.68 or by phone: (610)323-1050

Packet: AA3EP@W3CH.#SEPA.PA.USA.NOAM

E-mail: aa3ep@aol.com

Below is a list of the upcoming M.S. events for 1999.

March 10, 1999-M.S. thank you party Franklin Institute Philadelphia, PA

April 18, 1999-M.S. WALK, Valley Forge Park, Valley Forge, PA

M.S. WALK- Tyler State Park, Newtown, PA

M.S. WALK- Ridley Creek State Park, Media, PA

M.S. WALK- Moorestown H.S., Moorestown, NJ

M.S. WALK- Mainland Regional H.S., Linwood, NJ

May 2, 1999

M.S. WALK- Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA

M.S. WALK- Kerr Park, Downingtown, PA

M.S. WALK- Main Street Complex, Voorhees, NJ

June 12 & 13, 1999

PA Dutch MS-150 Tour- Morgantown/Lancaster PA

Sept. 25 & 26, 1999

City To Shore MS-150- Cherry Hill/Ocean City, NJ

Minutes

FEBRUARY DIRECTORS' MEETING

Art Weiner, N3LCV, Secretary



Minutes taken by Red Mackensie, W3RED, Asst. Secretary

The February Directors' Meeting was held on February 3rd in Willow Grove.

The meeting was called to order at 8 PM by Russ (W3CH). Those attending this meeting were: Dick (W3RM), Ed (KB3IV), Gene (N3XKE), Charlie (AA3EP), Al (W3STW), Tom (WA3KLR), Carol (N3PVO), Bill (W3GQD), Steve (WU31), Bob (K3KUD), Rick (N3DHI), Mike (K2BN), Jim (W3BBB), and Red (W3RED).

The following Committees reported:

TREASURER - Mike (K2BN) reported there was a problem with styrofoam cups and 40 cents change in funds. And you thought the IRS was tough. Bottom line - your Club dues are due.

MEMBERSHIP - Russ (W3CH) for Len (W3LEN). Four new members were voted in: Rich (N3XY), Fred (WA3KIO), Bob (KB3BYT) and his son Andrew (KB3CWH).

FIELD DAY - Steve (WU31) We need a place to store our free Field Day trailer. It can be in your extra garage or outside with a cover over it.

OLD BUSINESS - Dick (W3RM) and Jim (W3BBB). The 50th Anniversary Celebration Questionnaires are still coming in. Keep them coming. Russ (W3CH)- Raffle tickets are still available for the Kenwood TH-D7A.

NEW BUSINESS - Jim (W3BBB) Although not present at the Willow Grove meeting, we had communications from Riley Hollingsworth (K4ZDH) regarding enforcement and compliance on amateur frequencies.

It's really hard to condense a 3-hour meeting into a paragraph or two. Thanks to Elaine for hosting two in a row.

**Come to a Phil-Mont meeting,
and see what all the talk is about!**

THE W 3 A A REPORT

The International Voice of The Franklin Institute Science Museum

Many thanks to the FISM (Franklin Institute Science Museum) volunteers for the hours donated thus far to operate W3AA. As a group, you are knowledgeable, intelligent, articulate, good looking and friendly — well thought of by TV channels 3, 6, and 10. They've all visited W3AA to learn how you do what you do, so well.

W3AA is ready to support the FISM CAMP-IN 1999. CAMP-IN dates are March 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27; April 9, 10, 16, 23, 24, 30; May 1, 7, 14, 15, 21, 22; October 8, 22, 30; November 6, 12. The time is 6 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. If you can come down and operate W3AA please contact WU3I, Steve or W3STW, AL. Our telephone number is in the front part of the *Blurb*.

I am very proud to be part of the Ham Radio exhibit here at the FISM. The radio contacts you have made with Greece, gave inspiration to their handicapped amateur radio program. We have also received favorable comments from England on our station operation.

W3AA is the best equipped amateur radio exhibit in the Delaware Valley. The FISM maintenance assistance in keeping W3AA a top notch exhibit is greatly appreciated, by the W3AA volunteers. Furthermore, W3AA is ready to help maintain or establish radio communication, free. This is why W3AA operators need to participate in events like the camp-ins.

We know that radio is a science and as such what better location than a science museum.

73, AL W3STW

Internet: <http://www.fi.edu/tfi/exhibits/w3aa.html>

165th MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS FEBRUARY

12 candidates took 19 elements
4 new amateurs plus 3 upgrades

VE team members:

Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman

Al Tribble, W3STW

Jeff Kerber, N3VE; Peter Butler, WB2B



Membership Applications

Call: KB3CFS

Name: Steve Rubin

Nickname: Steve

Class: T+

Address: 2131 Cypress St., Phila., Pa
19103-6507

Occupation: Sales Manager

Home phone: 215-735-2582

Business phone: 215-239-4192

E-mail: srubin@krmediastream.com

Packet:

Committees:

Call: N3UBY

Name: Solomon Volen

Nickname: Sol

Class: T

Address: 11921 Covert Rd. Phila., Pa
19154

Occupation: Semi-retired

Home phone: 215-637-1176

Business phone:

E-mail:

Packet:

Committees:

to install a radio operating position for him aboard all aircraft likely to be used as Air Force One. (Sources close to the Pentagon say that "Air Force One" is not a particular airplane, but is the designation for any aircraft in which the President is flying.) This will make compliance with Clinton's request difficult and expensive.

At the White House, Clinton's wife Hillary issued a statement saying, "It is well documented that Ham Radio is addictive and consumes the major portion of one's free time, to the exclusion of one's family and outside activities. Amateurs even display a preference for 'chasing DX' instead of having sex. Therefore, I fully support my husband in this matter." (Editor's note: I wonder if he will have to pass a code test?)

Goodies for Sale

As most of you know K3KNH is a silent key. I have been helping the family and have a number of antennas Irv had in storage for sale. All proceeds go to the family.

CUSHCRAFT 12-4CD 12 METER 4 element monobander in box water damaged (box)- lists for around 340.00 - sell 200.00

Skywalker 20-3CD 20 meter 3 element monobander in box water damaged (box) lists 360.00 - sell 200.00

A147-4 4 element 2m beam in box - sell 30.00

HYGAIN TH2MK3 2 element triband beam 10-15-20 in box waterdamaged (box) lists 256.00 - sell 150.00

2-Meter J pole. Broad band stacked array (vertical) can be omni Bi or Uni directional. With gain form 6.0 to 7.5 to 9.0 respectively. Consists of 4 J-pole antennas and Phasing cable.

2TDQ 40 /80 doublet kit with traps, insulators and center hanger (just add wire) - sell 50.00 V4S

440 mhz vertical list 77.13- sell 50.00

BOZAK 440mhz fiberglass vertical new in box -sell 50.00

To be removed in-spring from roof (I will remove) Cushcraft A4 (s) 4 element 10-15-20 beam (possibly Ham M rotor)- sell 150.00 have optional 40 m add on kit for A3/A4

To be removed by professional from behind house:

75 foot crank up tower (height approx) motor driven.

5 element 20M monobander 36 foot boom 33 foot elements

2 element 40M monobander 24(+)- boom

Also there was a large amount of aluminum tubing for building and repairing antennas. If you need any tubing at all contact me. The prices will be very good. The tubing is assorted lengths and diameters and some booms are in stock also.

Thanks,

Steve Hoch WU3I

215-535-8061

President to Seek License

WASHINGTON, DC. Feb 10. (BS NEWS)—President Clinton returned yesterday from the funeral of King Hussein of Jordan, stating that he found one secret of the late monarch's popularity. "It was Ham Radio," said Clinton. Hussein, known to Amateurs by his call letters JY1, used his radio equipment to foster good will around the world. He often operated from his royal aircraft during trips abroad. Hoping to capture some of this popularity for himself, Clinton has filed a request with the Federal Communications Commission for the call letters K1B (King One Bill). He also has directed the Air Force

continued on next page

Minutes

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Art Weiner, N3LCV, Secretary



Minutes were taken by Asst. Secretary Red, W3RED

The 584th General Meeting was opened at 8 o'clock by Russ (W3CH).

TREASURER - Mike (K2BN)- January is a good month for the treasury. We collect dues. Are your's paid?

FIELD DAY - Steve (WU3I) -We still need a place to store our trailer.

PUBLIC SERVICE - Charlie (AA3EP) -the April 14th meeting will be at the KYW-TV transmitter site in Roxborough. There will be a map provided in the Blurb.

The March meeting is the MS150 Thank You Pizza Party and Award Night. M.S. Walks information will appear in the Blurb for April 18 and May 2.

SKYWARN - Bob (N3ZRR)- Discussion as to why or why not WX radios would receive alert messages.

WELCOME - Charlie - (K3CJ) Reported 31 members and 3 visitors. ARRL message on JY1, King Hussein, was read by Dick (W3RM).

PROGRAM-The General Meeting was then closed and turned over to our own Bill (W3AOK) who opened suitcase after suitcase and demonstrated all the toys he rents out to law enforcement agencies. What a show!

Help for Those Trying to Upgrade

PREMIER Communications wants to help people to become hams and hams to upgrade. So the makers of ADI radios and PRYME communications accessories has created a new website designed to help newcomers study for and pass the U.S. Amateur Radio license theory exams.

This new internet site gives prospective amateurs and those studying for an upgrade an easy resource for all of the U.S. amateur radio license theory tests. Users of the site have the opportunity to study the entire question pools, from Novice to Extra. They can even gauge their progress by taking live, simulated exams using a java-based applet.

When an applicant is ready to find a test session in his or her area, a link is provided to the ARRL VEC homepage and the database of upcoming test sessions.

The website is located at: <http://www.hamtest.com>

73 de Scott/n3byy Fists #5030

SOME 1999 HAMFESTS

MAR. 20 — Lewisburg
 MAR. 21 — Trenton, NJ
 MAR. 27-28 — Timonium, MD
 APRIL 24 — Harmony, NJ
 MAY 2 — Wrightstown, PA
 JUNE 4-6 — Rochester, NY
 JUNE 12 — Bloomsburg, PA
 JUNE 12 — Cortland, NY
 JULY 3 — Wilkes-Barre, PA
 JULY 11 — Kimberton, PA
 AUG. 7 — Lewistown, PA
 SEP. 11 — Erie, PA
 SEP. 12 — Butler, PA
 SEP. 18 — Hamburg, NY
 SEP. 25 — Horseheads, NY
 SEP. 26 — Bowie, MD
 OCT. 3 — Pack Rats - PA

Youthful New Ham Speaks Up

Hello! Someone asked me what it was like to be a new ham. I must admit, it is one of the most exciting hobbies. Computing used to be my most time-consuming hobby, but these days I'm definitely finding time for Amateur Radio.

It all began when I stumbled upon the W3AA station, a few years ago. I don't know if Charlye (K3CJ) remembers, but he was the first person to ever demonstrate Amateur Radio to me. His talk about Packet Radio especially perked my interests, because at the time I was running a small BBS out of my bedroom. At any rate, a few years went by and I left Amateur Radio on the back burner. Finally last September I came to the realization that if I didn't become a HAM now, I'd probably never go for my ticket.

Enter W3CH. The very same evening I began telling myself I needed to get my ticket, it just so happened that Russ was giving his e-mail address to someone over the air. I copied it down and fired off an e-mail stating to him that I was very interested in becoming a licensed Amateur. He responded by inviting me to a meeting of Phil-Mont.

When I came to the meeting, I realized that I'd found a new niche to feel at home. Everyone there seemed to be discussing wondrous technologies that I had never heard of before.

I studied my head off and when I took the license test, I passed. So, what is it like to be a new ham? One word: expensive. I'm trying to get money everywhere I can to buy myself more and more of this exotic and costly radio equipment. I still have a lot to learn about being a HAM. However, I am having a truckload of fun and meeting so many new people, both on the repeaters and via the worldwide network we have of packet radio.

Now, all I have to do is learn morse code and get myself on HF!
 73's de KB3DFQ, Peter.

(Peter is a new member and one of our youth. Introduce yourself when you see him. We need members like Peter to keep our hobby strong. -editor)

Some Of The Top 20 Signs That You Are From Philly

18. You know how to spell Schuylkill (pronounced Schookill).
17. You think \$2500 a year for insurance on a 1979 Toyota is a bargain.
16. You find yourself at a nice restaurant thinking "I wonder if they have cheese steaks".

(more next month - from Jack Haring)

H. A. R. C. plans busy schedule

Joe Fairclough, WB2JKJ, founder and President of The Radio Club of Junior High School 22 NYC, Inc., will be the speaker at the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club's Annual banquet on Saturday, March 27th, 1999. The Radio Club is not only NYC's largest Ham Club but also the Nation's only full time non-profit working to get Ham Radio into schools nationwide as a theme to teach using EDUCOM, Education Thru Communication. Since 1980 the 22 Crew has been bringing Communication to Education.

The HARC banquet will be held at the Rosewood Caterers, 8800 Frankford Ave, just south of Academy Road off of I-95 in Northeast Philadelphia. Time is 6:30 pm. The banquet will be buffet style with an open bar. Cost is \$30 per person. Payment is due by MARCH 13th. Seating is limited and reservations are expected to go quickly. Joe's presentation is appealing to both hams and spouses alike. I'm sure it will inspire many of us who teach amateur radio classes.

For further info contact Bob, WA3PZO, 215-624-6450 or wa3pzo@harcnet.org

The Holmesburg ARC will be teaching a Novice/Technician class beginning on Tuesday, March 16th at the Jewish Community Center, Algon and Unruh Ave, in Northeast Philadelphia. Time will be 7:30 pm. Cost will be \$20 for books and supplies. Exams will be given at the end of the class. Class is one night per week and will last for 11-12 weeks. For further info contact Bob, 215-624-6450 or WA3PZO@HARCNET.ORG

Holmesburg ARC sponsors Multi-Op QRO Fixed Station Award for the CQ VHF FM Activity Weekend, March 19-21 "The FM Activity Weekend" is for operators of FM equipment. This event encourages both new and experienced operators to get on the air and make contacts on any VHF+ band between 6 PM local time on Friday, March 19, 1999, and 12:00 midnight local time on Sunday, March 21, 1999. Repeaters and 146.52 MHz simplex may not be used for logged contacts, except that satellite contacts (e.g., OSCAR-27) are permitted. Only frequencies commonly used in a locality for FM simplex may be used during the activity. Use of frequencies adjacent to repeater inputs or outputs that causes interference to a repeater is not permitted. Crossband contacts are prohibited, except for satellite contacts. All amateur bands above 30 MHz may be used. HARC will be on the air and looks forward to working you in the contest.

For complete scoring details and information on other activity information see the March issue of CQ VHF or checkout their website at:

<http://www.cq-vhf.com/spring.html>

For further information on the Holmesburg ARC in Northeast Philadelphia contact WA3PZO@harcnet.org or check out the club website <http://www.harcnet.org>

Show and Tell

Al Tribble, W3STW, was volunteered to show his "Shack" this month. As you can see this is not the shack of a beginner to Ham Radio. Al tells me that his shack was developed over a period of 15 years. Listed below is his major equipment:

HF Gear

Ten Tec Omni VI

Kenwood 440S

Icom 751a

Ameritron amplifiers (300 watt and 1500 watt)

UHF and VHF

Yaesu FT 736R

Kenwood 811

Kenwood 711

Yaesu 5200

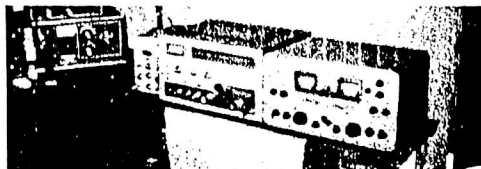
Antennas

50 foot crank -up and fold over tower
with a Mosely pro 67 Beam for HF
Satellite antenna mounted at ground level

Misc.

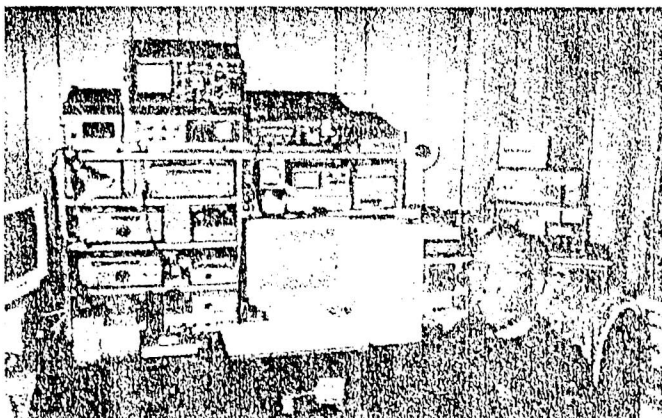
assorted computers

TV camera for Slow Scan and ATV



For you old -timers. Can you guess what this equipment that Al still uses?

Are you proud of your station? Contact the editor and he will help you with photos of your station. Show it off!



Prez Sez continued from page 3

be a map in the Blurb as well as talk-in on the repeater system. This is their new site so Do Not go to their old NTSC transmitter. Carpooling would be a good idea since there is limited parking and there will be a large crowd at this event. We will tour the site as well as view the HDTV that the station has been on the air with since November of 1998. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, the new TV is here and we will get a chance to see it. There will be NO meeting at The Franklin Institute in April, the meeting will be entirely held at the KYW site.

So much going on with Phil-Mont, but so little space in the Blurb. That is all the space that I have for this month. See you all at the meeting.

73 de Russ, W3CHΩ

Y to K Solved

Our staff has completed the 18 months of work on time and on budget. We have gone through every line of code in every program in every system. We have analyzed all databases, all data files, including backups and historic archives, and modified all data to reflect the change. We are proud to report that we have completed the "Y-to-K" date change mission, and have now implemented all changes to all programs and all data to reflect your new standards:

Januark, Februark, March, April, Mak, June, Julk,
August, September, October, November, December

As well as:

Sundak, Mondak, Tuesdak, Wednesdak
Thursdak, Fridak, Saturdak

I trust that this is satisfactory, because to be honest, none of this Y to K problem has made any sense to me. But I understand it is a global problem, and our team is glad to help in any way possible. And what does the year 2000 have to do with it?

73, Jack, W3IIM

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1999

MARCH

1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3AOK Full Moon ()	3 DIRECTORS' MEETING at KB3IV	4 166th LICENSE EXAM Session at The Franklin Institute Registration begins at 6:00	5	6 Fall of the Alamo, 1836
7 2M NCS WA3NSP 10M NCS 75M NCS W3PWG	8	9 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM	10 GENERAL MEETING at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. Meeting starts at 7:30.	11	12 FDR broadcast his first "Fireside Chat" in 1933	13 <i>Blurb DEADLINE!</i>
14 2M NCS N3OWM 10M NCS 75M NCS W3STW	15	16 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM WA3NSP	17 St. Patrick's Day New Moon ●	18	19	20
21 2M NCS W3STW 10M NCS 75M NCS N3JDM	22	23 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3AOK	24	25	26 "A lawyer and a wagon wheel must be well greased" (German Proverb)	27
28 Palm Sunday 2M NCS WB3KOJ 10M NCS W3HIF 75M NCS KB3IV	29	30 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM	31			